MISR Level 3 Products Quality Statement
July 31, 2002

Quality Designator: Beta

MISR maturity level definitions

This statement applies to the MISR Level 3 Georectified Radiance product with a production date of July 31, 2002, or later until such a time as further improvements to MISR software or ancillary inputs are made.

An extensive review of product quality has not yet been performed. Please read the summary words of caution if you have not done so already.

In spite the warnings pertaining to beta quality parameters, the MISR Level 3 Georectified Radiance software which generated this product is believed to be functioning quite well except where noted below. This statement highlights major known problems with the products, as well as functionalities which are currently not implemented.

Component Global Georectified Radiance Product (a.k.a. CGGRP) (from MISR PGE 12a)

L1 PROBLEMS
This product is a summary of the L1B2 Terrain and L1B2 Ellipsoid Radiance products. All of the statements about problems with these products also apply to the Level 3 summary. See the L1 Quality Statement for details.

"GREY BAND"
For certain months, a "grey band" can be seen in the northernmost or southernmost part of the Level 3 map. This band is actually correct, it does not indicate a bug in the Level 3 processing.

The MISR cameras are turned on when they first see the portion of the earth that is solar illuminated, and off when they leave. This means that the cameras turns on earlier as we approach the summer solstice, and off later as we approach the winter solstice. There are months in the year when the cameras are turned on before or off after we cross over the poles.

This results in some of the grid cells near the northernmost or southernmost part of the map having data in it from both before and after we pass over the pole. Because of the steeper solar illumination angle, the data before we pass over north pole is darker than the data after we pass over the pole, and vice versa for the south pole. When averaged together, this results in a grey band across the image.